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Made in America 16.

AN

OLD FOX

TARR'D AND FEATHER'D

OCCASIONED BY WHAT IS CALLED

Mr. JOHN WESLEY's *Calm Address to our*
American Colonies.

In Politics I dabble too,
"Brave Jack of all Trades"
Cecilians, FOR &c.

By an HANOVERIAN.



L O N D O N:

Printed for JOHN FRENCH, in the Poultry; MARY
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the Royal Exchange, 1775.

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19 Oct. 1775

ADVERTISEMENT.

TURN-COAT.

A circular postmark from New York, dated 1871. The text "NEW YORK" is at the top and "1871" is at the bottom. In the center is a small illustration of a building, likely the New York City Hall.

AN
OLD FOX, &c.
 ADVERTISEMENT
 SECTION. I.

*"Another Face of Things was seen,
 And I became a Tory."*

WHEREUNTO shall I liken Mr. John Wesley?
 and with what shall I compare him?
 I will liken him unto a low and puny TADPOLE
 in Divinity, which proudly seeks to dis-embowel an
 high and mighty WHALE in Politics.

For it came to pass, some Months since, that Doctor
 Samuel Johnson set forth an EIGHTEEN-PENNY Pam-
 phlet, entitled, *Taxation no Tyranny*.

And, some Days ago, a methodist Weather-cock
 saluted the Public with a TWO-PENNY paper (extracted
 by whole Paragraphs together from the aforesaid
 Doctor), ycleped, *A calm Address to our American Co-
 lonys*. The Occasion whereof was this:

There dwelleth, about 99 Miles, one Borlong, and thirteen Inches, from a place called the Foundry, in Moorfields (next door to a noted Mad-house) a Priest, named, *Pulse*.

This Priest is a *prudent* man, and an upright: hating Forgery, Adultery, and Covetousness.

Now, he happen'd to buy Dr. Johnson's Pamphlet above-mentioned, and, upon reading thereof, he thus *laughed* within himself, I may say, *laughed*.

This Tract, called, *Taxation no Tyranny*, cost me one Shilling and Six-pence.

"What a Man buys and pays for, is certainly his own."

Therefore, this Tract is no longer *his* Author's, but mine.

"Consequently, I shall do no Evil, if I get the Substance of it, and republish it under my own Name."

"There is an old Greek Proverb, which saith, *ἴσθι καὶ ποῦ, καὶ ἔλαβ' ἡ ἐπαρτή*, and seize it. There is also a Latin Poet, who saith, *Male dum recitas, incipit esse tuum*.

"No Tense like the present. Doctor Johnson has been, for several Weeks, absent from the Kingdom,

on a Tour to Paris. Therefore, 'tis now or never. Like a Mouse that has robbed a Pantry, I'll venture forth, with my stolen Morsel, while the Cat's out of the way.

"Now, it is not that I care for Government, any more than Judas cared for the Poor: But I have long wished to be taken notice of, at Court; and this Pilfering

" Pilfering may procure me some Preferment in the
 " Church.

" I once I begg'd and pray'd a foreign Vagrant
 " (who styled himself *Erasmus*, Bishop of *Arundel*) to
 " give me Episcopal Consecration, that I might be a
 " Bishop at large, and have it in my Power to ordain
 " my Ragged Regiment of Lay Preachers.

" Notwithstanding, tho' I gave the Man many fair
 " Speeches, he would not hearken to my Voice.

" But who knows whether, in the borrow'd
 " Plumes of Dr. Johnson, I may not per chance ob-
 " tain a Pension, if not slip into an English Cathedral;
 " or (at least) be appointed to the first American
 " Bishoprick?

" Alas, Alas! a sudden Thrill goes through me, and
 " my Cogitations are perplex'd within me. For be-

See some Account of this curious Transaction, in Mr. Toplady's
 Letter to Mr. John Wesley.

† A fop relates, that a certain *Jack-daw* pick'd up all the
 Peacock's Feathers he could meet with, and stuck them among his own, in
 hope, that the elegant Spoils might pass for the native Productions of his
 Back. The Cheat was soon discover'd: and the enraged Birds not only
 stripp'd him of his artificial Decorations, but made him feel the Vengeance
 of their Bills beside.

On this Fable, Dr. Croxall very properly remarks, that for a
 Man "to be barely pleas'd with appearing above what he really is,
 " may justly render him contemptible in the Eyes of his Equals. But
 " if, to enable him to do this with a better grace, he has scatter'd
 " his Nest with his Neighbor's Goods; he has nothing to expect,
 " when found out, but to be strip'd of his Plunder, and used like a
 " fool into the Bargain.

more than Judas cared for the Poor; But I have
 wished to be taken notice of at Court; fore

"fore I can be made a Bishop, my infamous Plagiariſm may be found out.

"However, worſt come to worſt, what if it be?

"Tis not the firſt Time that my old Boxſhip has been ſtarted, and my Impoſitions have been detected.

"Many Writers have luſtily plunder'd the Works of other Men: but I am reſolved to out-plunder, and to out-blunder, them all."

"Fear not, my Son, to do the Thing which thy

In the Address to the Colony, Mr. Wesley expreſſes himſelf thus: "I gain nothing, either by the Government, or by the Americans; and PROBABLY never ſhall." P. 12. Is not this, ſomething like hanging out a Sign-poſt to invite Cuſtom? or, *à la mode*, putting up a Bill importing Lodgings to let? or, ſetting himſelf up to Auction, ſaying, "The Party, whether Miniſtrial or Anti-miniftrial, that bids moſt for me, ſhall have me? At leaſt, is there not, in the above Declaration, a Loop-hole of Reſerve? a Back-door to creep out at? — Not to notice, that, in affirming he "gains nothing by the Government", he is very ungratefull, and advances a known Untruth. He "gains" Protection, at leaſt, and Toleration, from "Government"; and inſtead of calling this, much; has he the Face to call it "Nothing"? I ſhould be glad to know, what his Gratitude would term ſomething? — Moreover, Time was, when Mr. Wesley gained, even from American Bounty and Civility. Has he forgot his Residence at Savannah, and ſome certain Incidents therewith connected?

SECT.

SECTION II.

AND it came to pass, while the Priest thus communed with his own Heart, that a very aged Man, in Black Cloathing, rendered himself visible, and said :

" Fear not, my Son, to do the Thing which thy Soul lusteth after :

" For much Riches, and Renown, and Comfort, shall it add unto thee.

" Nothing venture, nothing have. Snatch the precious Moment. Distill the Doctor's Pamphlet. And, when thou hast extracted the Substance thereof, Cork it up, for Sale, in two-penny Phials.

" Yet a little while, and revolving Winds will waft the Doctor back to his native Shore.

" Imitate, therefore, certain worthy Sons of mine (vulgarly called, housebreakers) ; who are never better pleased, than with committing an unmolested Burglary, when a Family is from home.

And therewith the black Veteran gave the Priest a tweak by the Elbow : who, shaking his Locks, and taking his Quill in hand, enter'd immediately on the Business of Distillation.

How faithfully, how dextrously, how judiciously, and how plentifully, he executed the Task ; will appear

It may be alledged, that, in Mr. Wesley's *plentifull* Cribbings and Carvings from Doctor Johnson, he has rather *borrowed*, than

pear from the following [Synopsis wherein the very
Words of Dr. Johnson are given, on one side, and the
very Words of the Boundary Priest, on the other.

to the Control of that An-
 Doctor Johnson: now, the

1. "An English Colony
 is a Number of Persons, to
 whom the King grants a
 Charter, permitting them
 to settle in some *diffant*
 Country." [Tax. no Tyr. P. 25.]

2. "And enabling them
 to constitute a Corporation,
 enjoying such Powers as the
 Charter grants, to be ad-
 minister'd in such *Forms* as
 the Charter prescribes."

Ibid.

3. "As a Corporation,
 they make laws for them-
 selves; but as a Corpo-

stolen, the Doctor's Paragraphs. To which I answer: that, if he
 has borrowed them, he is one of those, concerning whom David ob-
 serves, *The Ungodly borroweth, and payeth not again.* For Mr.
 Wesley is so far from acknowledging himself a Debtor to Dr. Johnson,
 that he has never, so much as once, from the Beginning of his two-
 penny Tract to the End, mention'd the Doctor's Name, & made
 any Reference to the Doctor's Pamphlet; though that Pamphlet is
 the very *Hole of the Pit*, from which Mr. Wesley has dug and fetch'd
 up his own.

to the Control of that An-
 the very Words of the Boundary Priest, on the other.

1. "An English Colony
 is a Number of Persons, to
 whom the King grants a
 Charter, permitting them
 to settle in some *far Coun-*
 try."

[Ad. to the Amer. Col. B. 3. c. 1.]
 2. "As a Corporation,
 enjoying such Powers as the
 Charter grants, to be ad-
 ministered in such a *Manner*
 as the Charter prescribes."

P. 41

3. "As a Corporation,
 they make laws for them-
 selves; but, as a Corpora-

man, and the legal Distinc-
 To which I answer: that, if he
 has borrowed them, he is one of those, concerning whom David ob-
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 any Reference to the Doctor's Pamphlet; though that Pamphlet is
 the very *Hole of the Pit*, from which Mr. Wesley has dug and fetch'd
 up his own.

ration

Dr. Johnson. *Wesley* bearing from following
 ration subsisting by a grant from an higher Authority, to the Controll of that Authority they continue subject. *Ibid.* *An English Colonist.*

4. The Parliament of England has a legal Right to bind them [the Americans] by Statutes, and has therefore a legal and constitutional Power of laying upon them any Tax or Impost, for the Defence of America, for the Purpose of raising a Revenue, or for any other End beneficial to the Empire." *Ibid.* *And enabling them to constitute a Corporation, enjoying such Powers as the Charter grants, to be administered in such Form as the Charter prescribes."*

P. 30.

5. It is, say the American Advocates, the natural Distinction of a Freeman, and the legal Distinction of an Englishman, — that nothing can be taken from him, but by his own Consent. This Consent is given for every man by his Representative in Parliament. *Ibid.* *the very Holes of the Pit, from which he speaks up his own.*

A 5

6. "What

Dr. JOHNSON.

6. "Whatever is true of Taxation, is true of every other Law." P. 32.

7. "He that denies the English Parliament the Right of Taxation, denies it likewise the Right of making any other Laws, civil or criminal. Yet this Power over the Colonys was never yet disputed by themselves. They have always admitted Statutes for the Punishment of Offences, and for the Redress or Prevention of Inconveniencies."

P. 32, 33.

8. "The Reception of any Law draws after it, by a chain which cannot be broken, the necessity of submitting to Taxation."

P. 33.

9. "That a Freeman is governed by himself, or by Laws to which he has consented; — every man — feels it to be false."

Id. 2.

Dr. WHERRY.

6. "Whatever holds with regard to Taxation, holds with regard to all other Laws."

7. "He who denies the English Parliament the Power of Taxation, denies it the Right of making any Laws at all. But this Power over the Colonys you have never disputed. You have always admitted Statutes, for the Punishment of Offences, and for the preventing or redressing of Inconveniencies."

Id.

8. "The Reception of any Law draws after it, by a Chain which cannot be broken, the necessity of admitting Taxation."

Id.

9. "That every Freeman is governed by Laws to which he has consented, is absolutely false."

Id.

10. "In

Dr JOHNSON.

10. "In wide-extended Dominions, — a very small part of the People are either primarily or secondarily consulted in Legislation." *Ibid.*

11. "The Business of the Public must be done by Delegation. The Choice of Delegates is made by a select Number. And those who are not Electors, stand idle and helpless Spectators."

P. 43. 44.

12. "Of Electors, the Happ is but little better. — Where the Numbers approach to Equality, almost half must be governed, not only without, but against, their Choice."

P. 34.

13. "How any man can have consented to Institutions establish'd in distant Ages, it will be difficult to explain. — The Consent of Individuals is merely passive. — As all are born the Subjects of

WESLEY.

10. "In wide-extended Dominions, a very small Part of the People are concerned in making Laws."

Ibid.

11. "All public Business must be done by Delegation. The Delegates are chosen by a select Number. And those that are not Electors, stand by, idle and helpless Spectators." P. 5. 6.

12. "The Case of Electors themselves is little better. When they are near equally divided, almost half of them must be governed, not only without, but even against, their own Consent."

P. 6.

13. "How has any man consented to those Laws, which were made before he was born? Our Consent to these — is purely passive. And, in every place, as all men are born the Subjects of some State or other,

some

Dr JOHNSON.

some State or other, we may be said to have been all born consenting to some System of Government.

Other Consent, than this, the Condition of civil Life does not allow." *Ibid.*

14. "The Americans are telling one another, —

— that they are entitled to Life, Liberty, and Property; and that they have never ceded, to any Sovereign Power whatever, a Right to dispose of themselves without their Consent." *Ibid.*

15. "While they speak as the naked Sons of Nature, they claim but what is claimed by other men."

Ibid. 16. "Their next Resolution declares, that their Ancestors, who first settled the Colonys, were, at the Time of their Emigration from the Mother Country, entitled to the Rights, Liberty, and Immunities, of free and na-

Now we are to

so they are born, passively, as Tit. we say, consenting to the Laws of that State.

Other than this kind of Consent, the Condition of civil Life does not allow."

Ibid. 14. "But you say, you

are entitled to Life, Liberty, and Property, by Nature:

and that you have never ceded, to any Sovereign Power, the Right to dispose of these, without your Consent." *Ibid.*

15. "While you speak as the naked Sons of Nature, this is certainly true."

and Parliament — 16. "But you presently declare, Our Ancestors, at the time they settled these Colonys, were entitled to all the Rights of natural-born Subjects, within the Realm of England. This likewise is true."

Ibid. 17. "Power of disposing, without

16. "But you presently declare, Our Ancestors, at the time they settled these Co-

lonys, were entitled to all the Rights of natural-born Sub-

jects, within the Realm of England. This likewise is

true." *Ibid.*

tur.

Dr. Johnson.

original Subjects within
the Realm of England. This
likewise is true." *P. 36.*
to speak "But, when this is
granted, their Boast of ori-
ginal Rights is at an End.
They are no longer in a
State of Nature. These
Lords of themselves —
these Demi-gods of Inde-
pendence, sink down to
Colonists, govern'd by a
Charter." *Ibid.*

18. "If their Ancestors
were Subjects, they acknow-
ledged a Sovereign. If they
had a Right to English Pri-
vileges, they were account-
able to English Laws; and
— had ceded to the King
and Parliament — — —
the Power of DISPOSING,
WITHOUT THEIR CON-
SENT, of their LIVES, LI-
BERTYS, and PROPERTYS."

P. 37.

19. "It is required of
them to prove, that the
Parliament ever ceded to
them a Dispensation from

Dr. Watson.

some State or other, we
may be said to have been all
born consenting to some
Law. "But, when this is
granted, the Boast of ori-
ginal Rights is at an End.
You are no longer in a
State of Nature, but sink
down to Colonists govern-
ed by a Charter." — —

Ibid. "If your Ancestors
were Subjects, they acknow-
ledged a Sovereign. If
they had a Right to English
Privileges, they were ac-
countable to English Laws:
and had ceded to the King
and Parliament the Power
of DISPOSING, WITHOUT
THEIR CONSENT, of both
their LIVES, LIBERTYS,
and PROPERTYS." *Ibid.*

19. "Did the Parlia-
ment cede to them a Dis-
pensation from the Obedi-
ence, which they owe as
that

Dr JOHNSON.

that Obedience, which they owe as natural-born Subjects; or any Degree of Independence and Immunity not enjoyed by other Englishmen. *Ibid.*

20. "They say, that, by such Emigration, they by no means forfeit any of those Rights: that they were, and their Descendants now are, entitled to the Exercise and Enjoyment of all such of them, as their local and other Circumstances enable them to exercise and enjoy. *Ibid.*

21. "That they, who form a Settlement by a lawful Charter, having committed no Crime, forfeit no Privileges; will be readily satisfied. But what they do not forfeit by any judicial Sentence, they may lose by natural Effects."

P. 38.

22. "He, who goes voluntarily to America, cannot complain of losing what

WESLEY.

natural Subjects? or any Degree of Independence, not enjoyed by other Englishmen? *Ibid.*

20. "They did not induce, as you observe, by Emigration, forfeit any of those Privileges: but they were, and their Descendants now are, entitled to all such as their Circumstances enable them to enjoy. *P. 7. 8.*

21. "That they, who form a Colony by a lawful Charter, forfeit no Privilege thereby, is certain. But what they do not forfeit by any judicial Sentence, they may lose by natural Effects." *P. 8.*

22. "When a man voluntarily comes into America, he may lose what he

Dr. Johnson.
 he leaves in Europe. He, perhaps, had a Right to vote for a Knight or Burgeſs. By croſſing the Atlantic, he has not nullified his Right; for he has made it's Exertion no longer poſſible. — — — He has reduced himſelf, from a Voter, to one of the innumerable Multitude that have no Vote.” *Ibid.*

21. “As the Engliſh Colonists are not represented in the Britiſh Parliament, they are entitled to a free — — — Power of Legislation. — — — They inherit, they ſay, from their Anceſtors, the Right which their Anceſtors poſſeſſed, of enjoying all the Privileges of Engliſhmen. That they inherit the Right of their Anceſtors, is allowed: but

Wesley.
 had in Europe. Perhaps, he had a Right to Vote for a Knight or Burgeſs. By croſſing the Sea, he did not forfeit this Right: but 'tis plain he has made the exerciſe of it no longer poſſible. He has reduced himſelf, from a Voter, to one of the innumerable Multitude that have no Votes.” *Ibid.*

23. “As the Colonys are not represented in the Britiſh Parliament, they are entitled to a free Power of Legislation. For they inherit all the Right, which their Anceſtors had, of enjoying all the Privileges of Engliſhmen. They do inherit all the Privileges, which their Anceſtors had: but they can inherit no more.” *Ibid.*

* The word *not*, here ſeems to have crept in, through a miſtake of the Printer. The Drift of the Doctor's arguing is, to prove, that Emigration *does* nullify thoſe Rights which the Emigrant poſſeſſed in his own Country. — Mr. *Wesley*, however, ſwallows the Pamphlet by Wholesale, Errors and all, rough and ſmooth as it runs; juſt as a man takes his Wife, for better for worſe.

24. “Their

Dr. JOHNSON.

they can inherit no more.

P. 39, 40.

24. "Their Ancestors left a Country, where the Representatives of the People were elected by Men particularly qualified: and where those, who wanted Qualifications, or who did not use them, where bound by the Decisions of Men whom they had not deputed."

P. 40, 41.

25. "The Colonists are the Descendants of Men, who either had no Votes in Elections; or who voluntarily resigned them, for something, in their Opinion, of more Estimation. They have, therefore, exactly what their Ancestors left them: not a Vote in making Laws, or in constituting Legislators; but the Happiness of being protected by Law, and the Duty of obeying it."

P. 41.

26. "What their Ancestors did not carry with them, neither they nor their

WESLEY.

they have not by

P. 39, 40.

24. "Their Ancestors left a Country, where the Representatives of the People were elected by Men particularly qualified: and where those, who wanted that Qualification, were bound by the Decisions of Men whom they had not deputed."

P. 8, 9.

25. "You are the Descendants of Men, who either had no Votes, or resigned them by Emigration. You have, therefore, exactly what your Ancestors left you: not a Vote in making Laws, nor in constituting Legislators; but the Happiness of being protected by Laws, and the Duty of obeying them."

P. 9.

28. "Provincial Laws may grant to certain Individuals of the Province the

26. "What your Ancestors did not bring with them, neither they nor their

Def-

Dr. JOHNSON.

Descendents have since acquired. They have not, by abandoning their Part in one Legislature, obtained the Power of constituting another: — any more than the Multitudes, who are now debarred from voting, have a Right to erect a separate Parliament for themselves." P. 41, 42.

27. "His Majesty's Colonys are entitled to all the Privileges and Immunities granted and confirmed to them by Royal Charters, or secured to them by their several Codes of Provincial Laws. The first Clause — will be readily admitted. To all the Privileges, which a Charter can convey, they are by a Royal Charter evidently entitled. The second Clause is of greater difficulty." P. 42, 43.

28. "Provincial Laws may grant, to certain Individuals of the Province, the Enjoyment of gainful, or

WESLEY,

Descendents have acquired. They have not, by abandoning their Right in one Legislature, acquired a Right to constitute another, any more than the Multitudes in England, who have no Vote, have a Right to erect a Parliament for themselves." *Ibid.*

27. "However, the Colonys have a Right to all the Privileges granted them by Royal Charters, or secured to them by Provincial Laws. The first Clause is allowed: They have certainly a right to all the Privileges granted them by the Royal Charters. But, as to the second, there is a Doubt." P. 9.

28. "Provincial Laws may grant Privileges to Individuals of the Province: but, surely, no Province

Dr. JOHNSON.
an Immunity from oner-
ous Offices. But no Pro-
vince can confer Provincial
Privileges on itself." P. 43.

29. "They may have a
Right to all which the King
has given them; but it is
a Conceit of the other. He-
misphere, that Men have a
Right to all which they
have given to themselves."

Ibid.
30. "A Corporation —
— — can no more ex-
tend it's own Immunitys
than a Man can, by his
own Choice, assume Dig-
nity or Titles." *Ibid.*

31. "The Legislature of
a Colony — — — is
only the Vestry of a larger
Parish, which may lay a
Cess on the inhabitants, —
— — but must mo-
dify it's particular Regu-
lations, by the general law;
and, whatever may be it's
internal Expences, is still
liable to Taxes laid by su-
perior Authority." P. 44.

WATSON
can confer Provincial Pri-
vileges on itself." P. 40.

29. "They have a Right to
all which the King has giv-
en them; but not to all
which they have given them-
selves." *Ibid.*

30. "A Corporation can
no more assume to itself,
Privileges which it had not
before; than a Man can,
by his own Act and Deed,
assume Titles or Dignitys,"

Ibid.
31. "The Legislature
of a Colony may be com-
pared to the Vestry of a
large Parish; which may lay
a Cess on it's Inhabitants,
but still regulated by the
Law; and, whatever be
it's internal Expences, is
still liable to Taxes laid by
superior Authority." *Ibid.*

THUS,

THUS, gentle Reader, it appears, that the Foundery Wasp has made very free with the Johnsonian Hive. No fewer, than *Thirty-one* borrowed Paragraphs, in the Course of only *ten* pages! In Fact, there are *more* of these pilfer'd Goods stowed in the narrow Compass of those five Leaves. But the adduced Specimens may suffice to convince thee, with what an *unsparring* Hand the Master of Arts has fleeced the Doctor of Laws.

But are Dr. Johnson's Arguments and Phraseology *therefore* the legitimate Property of John Wesley, *because* the latter puffs them off as his own? By no means. We might as well affirm, that Mr. Wesley's Body Natural is *therefore* the lawfull Property of a Leech, *because* the latter may have thought fit to pay it's Compliments to the Veins of the former.

SECTION III.

IT is not the Intention of this Tract, to canvass the Merits of Dr. Johnson's Reasonings: but, merely, to shew, that the best Part of what Mr Wesley, *most imprudently*, and *most untruly*, calls, his own Address to the Americans, is, both as to Matter and Expression, a Bundle of Lilliputian Shafts picked and stolen out of Dr. Johnson's Pin-cushion.

And if Mr Wesley had the least Spark of Shame remaining, the simple Detection of such enormous literary Theft would

would be more terrible to his Feelings, than an English Pumping, or an American Tarring and Feathering.

I can say, in earnest; what this unblushing Priest lately declared concerning himself, viz. "I am no Politician: Politics I ye quite out of my Province." (It is not for me to enter deeply, much less with Acrimony, into those public Contests, which now carry so formidable an Aspect on the best Interests of the English Empire. My Department and Inclination lead me ardently to pray, in humble and pacific Obscurity, for the Safety and Prosperity of my Nation, Church, and King. But the interested, the inconsistent, the shameless Conduct of Mr. Wesley, compels me to put the two following Quærysts to his Conscience, if any Thing like Conscience has fallen to his Share.

I.

Did you not, within this Twelvemonth, openly declare, in the Pulpit, at Bristol, that, in your Opinion, and to use your own canting Words, "*America is the Favorite Land of the Lord?*" Adding, "*Woe be to that Man, either in England or out of it, that dares to lift up a Finger against America!*" I only ask, How does this (be it right or be it wrong) comport with the Tenor of that Sound, which you now echo from Dr. Johnson's Drum?

* Wesley's *Free Thoughts on the State of Public Affairs*, P. 3. Printed in 1770.—This Gentleman laments (*Ibid.* P. 4.), that

"very Cocker, Tinker, Porter, and Hackney-Coachman," can dabble in Politics. And yet the Lamentor himself actually employs Cobblers, &c. to PREACH what he calls the Gospel!

Did

Did you not, in the Year 1770, thus express yourself (whether justly, or improperly, I have no Design to enquire)? "I do not defend the Measures which have been taken, with regard to America, I doubt, whether any Minister defend them, either on the Foot of Law, Equity, or Prudence." Probably, the Weathercock is not, even yet, completely rusted. It may still vary with the Wind. To what Point of the Compass will it veer next? Certainly not to a new one; For it has, again and again, turned to all the thirty-two. Go on, Sir, to pursue all Things: but, be sure that you do not forfeit your Charter, and sully the Glory of your past Excentricity, by holding fast any Thing that is good. Keep up to your old Character:

Stick in Opinion, mostly in the wrong, "Be every Thing by Starts, and nothing long." The Fly is now perched, with much Solemnity, on Dr. Johnson's Wheel. But who can tell, what a Moment may bring forth? The quondam Admirer of Johnson may, possibly, in the Twinkling of an Eye, commence the Panegyrist of an English Cromwell, or of a Scotch Macbeth.

This is the Mr. Wesley, who, not long ago had the Modesty to tell the World that his Principles have been

These are Mr Wesley's very Words, in his *Free Thoughts on the State*, &c. P. 14.

† See Mr Wesley's Tract, already referred to; viz. *Free Thoughts*, &c. P. 4.

the

the same, "For *eight and twenty Years*." Instead of *Principles*, in the plural; he should have said, *Principle*, in the singular. For, I grant, there is a *Principle*, by which he has uniformly abode; viz. to *change and shift about*, like the minute hand of a Clock. Nor does he bid fair, ever to stand at a Point, till all the vital Weights are quite run down, and the Pendulum ceases to play.

Little more than two Centuries ago, a Famous *conspicuous* Priest, who had turned with every Tide, who was an *half* Protestant in the Close of Henry VIII's Reign, an *whole* Protestant in the Reign of Edward VI, a good *Catholic* in the Reign of Mary, and a *Protestant* again in the Reign of Elizabeth; returned the following Answer to a Friend, who charged him with religious and political Unsteadiness, and with having either *no* Conscience at all, or at least a very *convenient* Conscience, made of stretching Leather, equally capable of shrinking and dilating, as Whim or Interest might require.

"You are much mistaken," said the pious Divine: "I am by no means that *changeable* Person, you take me for. No Man in the World was ever more *steady* to his Principle, or acted a more *consistent* Part. When I was first presented to the Vicarage of BRAY, I resolved to hold it as long as I breathed. And I have acted accordingly. Vicar of BRAY I was. Vicar of BRAY I am. And Vicar of BRAY I will be, to the End of the Chapter."

By way of winding up the whole Matter, I'll take my present Leave of Mr. Wesley, with submitting to the reader

der a very notable Specimen of Father John's wretched, but (in him) not astonishing, *Inconsistency*.

Your Ancestors —

And *came*, to the King and Parliament, the Power of disposing, without their Consent, of both *their* Lives, Liberties, and Property.

Wesley's Calm Address to the Americans, P. 7.

No Man can dispose of another's Life, but by his own Consent. I add, *no*, NOR WITH *his* Consent. For no Man has a Right to dispose of his own Life. Now, it is an

INDISPUTABLE Truth,

Nihil dat quod non habet: none gives what he has not. It plainly follows,

that no Man can give, to another, a Right,

which he *never* had him-

self, — [viz.] the

Power of the Sword, any

such Power as implies a

Right to take away

Life.

Wesley's Thoughts on the Origin of Power, P. 11.

Printed, A. D. 1772.

How delightfully do those two opposite Paragraphs coalesce and hang together! But what are Contradictions, to John Wesley? I congratulate Administration, on their Acquisition of, so *wise*, so *knowing*, so *honest*, so *uniform*, so *disinterested*, so *steady* and so *respectable*

respectable a Politician. A Politician, who, in some Company, affirms, that his sudden Approbation of Government-Measures was occasioned by his Perusal of Dr Johnson's 'Taxation no Tyranny:' and, without a Blush, avers, in other Company, that his said political Conversion was brought about by Virtue of a long Conversation with two Members of Parliament. Pity it is, that great Truth-tellers, like great Wits, should be so famous for short Memorys!

• LONDON, Oct. 19. 1775.

POSTSCRIPT.

• Should Dr. Johnson's Echo be asked to preach a *Cha- rity Sermon*, larded with Tory Politics, in *Bethnal Green Church*; we shall have the Tide of a good old Song realized afresh: and the Charity Girls may squeak a Stanza, to the Tune of, *The blind Beggar of Bethnal Green*.

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